

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P28196WO Ru	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/006793	International filing date (day/month/year) 23.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 02.07.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H05B37/02		
Applicant TRIDONICATCO GMBH & CO. KG		

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet. 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 5 sheets, as follows: <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</td> </tr> </table> b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions). 	<input type="checkbox"/>	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).	<input type="checkbox"/>	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.												
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

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Box No. I	Basis of the report
<p>1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)) <input type="checkbox"/> publication of the international application (Rule 12.4) <input type="checkbox"/> international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3) <p>2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (<i>replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report</i>):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the international application as originally filed/furnished</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the description: pages <u>1-12</u> as originally filed/furnished pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____ pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the claims: nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19 <u>17.12.2004 with letter of 17.12.2004</u> nos.* <u>1-18</u> received by this Authority on <u>of 17.12.2004</u> nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the drawings: sheets <u>1/3-3/3</u> as originally filed/furnished sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____ sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the description, pages _____ <input type="checkbox"/> the claims, nos. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> the drawings, sheets/figs _____ <input type="checkbox"/> the sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> any table(s) related to sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____ <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the description, pages _____ <input type="checkbox"/> the claims, nos. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> the drawings, sheets/figs _____ <input type="checkbox"/> the sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> any table(s) related to sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____ 	

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. This report refers to the following documents:

D1: US-B1-6 388 399 (ECKEL DAVID P ET AL.) 14 May
2002 (2002-05-14)

D4: US-A-6 081 586 (MATHE JACQUES ET AL.) 27 June
2000 (2000-06-27).

2. Document D1 is taken as the prior art closest to the subject matter of independent claims 1, 9 and 12. It discloses all the features indicated in the preambles of these claims.

3. The subject matter of claims 1, 9 and 12 differs, then, from the known interface for a lamp operating device in that

the evaluation logic is supplied with power by means of an input-side signal port (claims 1 and 12), and

the evaluation logic has a power supply which is independent of the system voltage supply to the lamp operating device (claim 9).

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The subject matter of the claims is thus novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

Document D4, from the field of communications engineering, describes the same features and advantages as the present application with regard to the feature of power supply to the evaluation logic. In telephony it is general knowledge that the receiving evaluation logic can be powered by the bus line voltage.

- 2.2 The problem to be solved with the present invention can thus be seen as that of reducing standby losses in an interface of a lamp operating device.
- 2.3 The solution to this problem as proposed in claims 1, 9 and 12 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons: a person skilled in the art of lamp operating devices will not be sufficiently knowledgeable in communications engineering or telephony to incorporate the features and advantages of document D4 in the interface according to document D1. Moreover, a person skilled in the art of lamp operating devices would normally not seek solutions in communications engineering in order to solve the problem stated in point 2.2 above.
- 2.4 Claims 2-8, 10, 11, 13-18 are dependent on claims

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Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1, 9 or 12 and thus they also meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

3. The application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 because claims 1 and 9 are not clear.

3.1 In claim 9 the following feature is defined in general terms by its function: "the evaluation logic has a power supply independent of the system power supply to the lamp operating device".

However, the description and the drawing give the impression that this function can be carried out only with special means, namely by the "input-side signal connection" that supplies power to the evaluation logic, and that no alternatives to these means are provided.

Thus, claim 9 is not supported by the description as stipulated under PCT Article 6.

3.2 Claims 1 and 9 were written as separate independent (device) claims, but in fact they appear to refer to one and the same subject and evidently differ from each other only in the terminology used for the features of this subject.

For this reason the claims are not concise and do not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6.